

A new species of the *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *aeneocuprea* species-group from Taiwan (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Anthaxiini)

Svatopluk BÍLÝ

Czech University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences,
Department of Game Management and Wildlife Biology,
Kamýčká 1176, Praha 6-Suchbát, 165 21 Czech Republic
e-mail: svatopluk_bily@nm.cz

Taxonomy, Coleoptera, Buprestidae, *Anthaxia*, new species, Palaearctic Region

Abstract. *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *vicesimasexta* sp. nov. is described, illustrated and compared with the most similar species from Laos.

INTRODUCTION

The *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *aeneocuprea* species-group were revised quite recently (Bílý 2015) and it comprises 56 valid species. Since that revision, some new species of this group were discovered, one of them from Taiwan, which is described in the present paper. The new species is rather similar and probably also related to *A. (H.) sextadecima* Bílý, 2015 from eastern Laos.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A Canon D-550 digital camera with attached Canon MP-E65mm f/2.8-5x macro lens was used to capture the colour images; multiple photographs taken were combined with Helicon Focus image stacking software.

The following collection codes are used:

NMNST National Museum of Natural Sciences, Taichung City, Taiwan;
NMPC National Museum, Prague, Czech Republic.

TAXONOMY

***Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *vicesimasexta* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-5)

Type material. Holotype (♂, NMNST): "Taiwan, Nantou co., Guandaoshan, 16.iii.2018, Uitsiann Ong leg." Paratypes: the same data (2 ♂♂, NMPC); the same data, but 21.iii.2018, Singyan Shih leg. (1 ♂, NMNST); the same data, but 17.iii.2020, Uitsiann Ong leg. (1 ♀, NMPC); the same data, but 20.iii.2020, Singyan Shih leg. (1 ♂, 1 ♀, NMPC).

Diagnosis. Small (3.8–4.4 mm), lustrous, flattened, subparallel (Figs. 1, 4); asetose except for short, white postclypeal setae and very short, white setae on pronotum; frons green to golden green, vertex weakly darkened medially; pronotum dark bronze with weak reddish lustre, anterior angles green; elytra uneven, dark bronze; ventral surface of male green with bronze lustre, abdominal ventrites bright bronze with red lustre; antennae and anterior legs green, middle and posterior legs bronze; ventral surface of female bronze with green anterior margin of prosternum, posterior half of prosternal process and coxae.

Description of the male holotype (Figs. 1-2). Head small, partly retracted into prothorax,

as wide as anterior pronotal margin; anterior margin of frontoclypeus deeply emarginate, frons with rather deep, triangular, postclypeal depression, vertex finely, medially depressed, about twice as wide as width of eye; eyes relatively small, very weakly projecting beyond outline of head; sculpture consisting of fine, polygonal cells with large, flat central grains; antennae short, reaching midlength of lateral pronotal margins when laid alongside; scape claviform, about 3 times as long as wide, pedicel ovoid, about twice as long as wide; third antennomere subcylindrical, 2.5 times as long as wide, fourth antennomere weakly triangular, about 1.5 times as long as wide, antennomeres 5-10 trapezoidal, slightly longer than wide, terminal antennomere rhomboid, twice as long as wide. Pronotum weakly convex, 1.8 times as wide as long with wide, deep lateroposterior depressions (Fig. 1); anterior margin bisinuate, posterior margin almost straight; lateral margins widely, regularly rounded, maximum width at anterior third; posterior angles obtuse-angled; sculpture homogeneous, consisting of fine, polygonal cells with small, well-defined central grains bearing very short, white setae. Scutellum flat, microsculptured, pentagonal to cordiform, about 1.2 times as wide as long.

Elytra uneven (Figs. 1, 4), 1.9 times as long as wide, parallel-sided at anterior two thirds, posterior third regularly narrowed, apices narrowly, separately rounded and very finely serrate laterally; each elytron with shallow, almost triangular depression at anterior fourth and rather deep, apical, longitudinal depression along suture; humeral callosities small, not projecting beyond elytral outline, transverse, basal depression wide and deep, almost reaching scutellum; subhumeral lobe large, elytral epipleura narrow, not reaching elytral apex; sculpture homogeneous, consisting of fine grains and short, transverse rugae. Ventral surface strongly lustrous with extremely fine, sparse, short, white pubescence (Figs. 2, 5); sculpture consisting of rather rough polygonal cells with central grains, sculpture of abdominal ventrites much finer than that on pro- and metasternum; prosternal process flat, sharply pointed apically, strongly, sharply widened posteriorly of procoxae; anal ventrite obtusely rounded apically with fine, lateral, preapical serration.

Legs thin, rather long, all tibiae almost straight, meso- and metatibiae very weakly widened apically, without inner serrations; all tarsi much shorter than corresponding tibiae; tarsal claws thin, yellow, weakly hook-shaped, not enlarged at base.

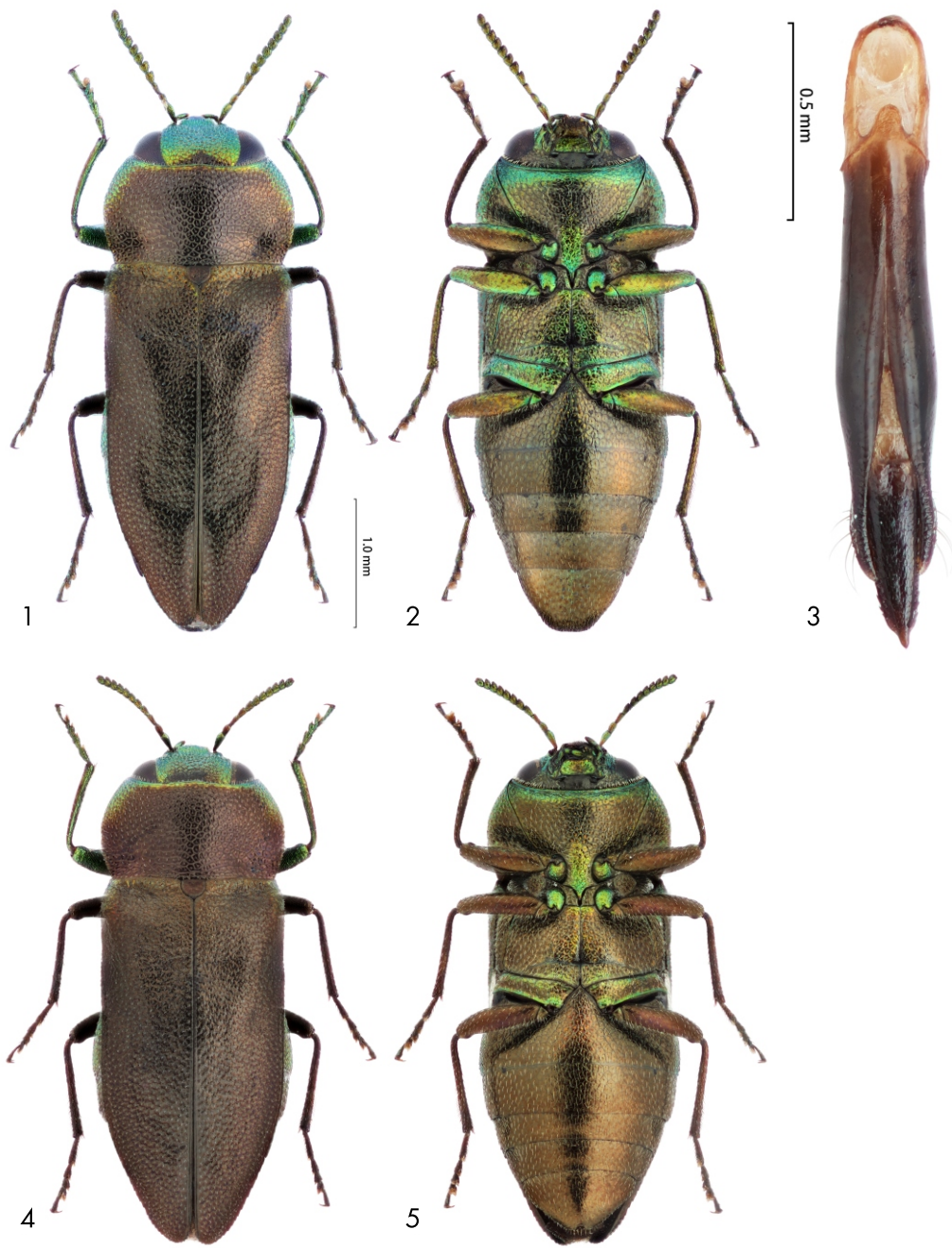
Aedeagus (Fig. 3) long, tubular, weakly S-shaped in lateral view, parameres weakly widened at posterior third, median lobe finely serrate laterally, sharply pointed apically.

Measurements. Length 3.8-4.4 mm (holotype 4.4 mm); width: 1.4-1.5 mm (holotype 1.5 mm).

Sexual dimorphism. The female (Figs. 4, 5) differs from the male by the following characters: dorsal surface less lustrous, more or less completely brown except for the green anterior angles of pronotum, antennae green-bronze, ventral surface bronze with green anterior margin of prosternum, posterior half of prosternal process, and coxae and by the apically notched anal ventrite.

Bionomics. Unknown but all type specimens were collected on flowers of *Litsea cubeba* (Lauraceae).

Etymology. The specific epithet follows the name derivations in the revision of this species-group (Bílý 2015) (*A. (H.) prima* - *A. (H.) vicesimaquinta*).



Figs. 1-5. *Anthaxia (Haplanthaxia) vicesimasexta* sp. nov., 1- holotype, dorsal aspect; 2- the same, ventral aspect; 3- aedeagus; 4- female paratype, dorsal aspect; 5- the same, ventral aspect.

Differential diagnosis. *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *vicesimasexta* sp. nov. belongs, in the *A. (H.) aeneocuprea* species-group, to species with deeply, triangularly depressed frons and uneven elytra. It is very similar to *A. (H.) sextadecima* Bílý, 2015 from eastern Laos from which it differs by the green pro- and metasternum of the male (entirely violet ventral surface in *A. (H.) sextadecima*), bicolorous pronotum (entirely bronze in *A. (H.) sextadecima*), straight mesotibiae (mesotibiae weakly emarginate on inner margin in *A. (H.) sextadecima*), and by the somewhat different aedeagus (Fig. 3 vs. fig. 36 in Bílý (2015)).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. I am obliged very much to Mr. Uitsiann Ong and Mr. Singyan Shih (Tainan City, Taiwan), who collected the new species and kindly offered it to me for the description. The study was partly possible due to the financial support of the Internal Grant Agency (IGA n. 20124364) Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague.

REFERENCES

- BÍLÝ S. 2015: A revision of the *Anthaxia* (*Haplanthaxia*) *aeneocuprea* species-group (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Anthaxiini). *Folia Heyrovskyana Supplementum* 14: 1-96.

Published: 14. 5. 2020